ment of Gujarat in February, 1991 at an estimated cost of Rs. 953.00 lakhs. The project proposal was circulated to appraisal agencies and the points raised by them have been communicated to the State Government for their comments in April, 1991.

Diesel/Petrol Storage at Surat

1593. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the petrol/diesel storage capacity at Surat at present and five years ago ; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to increase the storage capacity?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The capacity for storage of petrol/diesel available at Surat is approximately 6132 Kilometres. There are has been no change in this during the last five years.

(b) The oil companies are in touch with the Government of Gujarat for allotment of suitable land in order to increase the storage capacity.

[*English*]

New LPG Plant in Kerala

1594. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to set up new LPG Plant State;and at Kollam district in Kerala State;and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) An LPG bottling plant is proposed to be set up at Kollam district in Kerala.

(b) As per the schedule worked out by the IOC, the project is likely to take about 6 months to complete from the date of acquisition of the land.

Banana Plantation

1595. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring more areas under banana plantation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide incentives to small farmers in Orissa to take up banana plantation ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The areas under Banana Cultivation are being increased in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and North Eastern States.

(c) and (d). The Government of Orissa is implementing a scheme under which 3500 hectare area will be covered under Banana during 1992-93. This includes about 2500 hectares compact area plantation and 944 hectare under Tribal areas. 118 Tribal blocks have been selected. A subsidy of Rs. 3125/- per hectare is provided to Small and marginal farmers and Rs. 2500/- per hectare to tribal farmers.